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MISCELLANY.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR GOOD CITY GOVERNMENT.

A National Conference for Good City Government was held in Philadelphia on Thursday and Friday, January 25 and 26, of this year. The idea of the conference originated with the Municipal League of Philadelphia, and the conference was called under the joint auspices of that body and the City Club of New York.

The following is a copy of the call which was sent out for the conference:

THE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, December 29, 1893.

DEAR SIR:

The MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA, with the co-operation of the CITY CLUB OF NEW YORK, has decided to issue a call for a NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR GOOD CITY GOVERNMENT, to be held in Philadelphia on the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth days of January, 1894.

The principal objects of the Conference will be to determine, so far as is possible by inquiry and debate, the best means for stimulating and increasing the rapidly growing demand for honest and intelligent government in American cities, and to discuss the best methods for combining and organizing the friends of Reform so that their united strength may be made effective.

The program for the papers and discussions, as at present outlined (subject to possible changes), is as follows:

First.—A brief summary of existing conditions in different cities, and a description of Municipal Government and Municipal Officials as they ought to be.

Second.—Methods for obtaining better government without resorting to the nomination or support of independent candidates.

Third.—Methods that involve the nomination or support of independent candidates.

Further details will be mailed hereafter to those proposing to attend.

You are respectfully invited to be present at the meetings and to take part in the discussions. It is believed that by attending this Conference, those who realize the vast importance of the problems to be discussed will accomplish much in arousing public interest, in raising the popular standards of political morality, and in securing for the advocates of Municipal Reform that feeling of brotherhood and co-operation and that unity of action and methods, which will multiply their strength and enthusiasm, and inspire the people with the hope and confidence essential to final success.

If you are an officer of any association of voters, which has for one of its objects the improvement of Municipal Government or the proper management of city affairs, we shall be greatly obliged if you will at once do whatever may be necessary to extend this invitation to such organization, and procure the appointment of delegates to attend the Conference. It is our desire to have copies of this letter

sent to the secretaries of all associations of a kindred character in the United States, but there may be many whose addresses are unknown to us, and we shall, therefore, be very glad to receive any that you can furnish.

An early response is specially requested, as our time for preparation is brief. Letters may be directed to the Corresponding Secretary of the League—Clinton Rogers Woodruff, 514 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Very respectfully,

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Charles Richardson, | Edmund J. James, | Herbert Welsh, |
| Stuart Wood, | William I. Nichols, | Clinton Rogers Woodruff, |
| George Burnham, Jr., | Francis B. Reeves, | Thomas Martindale, |
| S. D. McConnell, | W. M. Salter, | George Gluyas Mercer, |
| Joseph G. Rosengarten, | R. Francis Wood, | |
| | | <i>Committee of Arrangements.</i> |

Edmond Kelly,
John Harsen Rhoades,
R. Fulton Cutting,

Committee of City Club of New York.

We desire to express our cordial approval of the call issued by the Municipal League of Philadelphia for a National Conference for Good City Government, to be held in Philadelphia on the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth days of January, 1894. Appreciating the vital importance, as well as the difficult nature, of the problems to be discussed, we sincerely hope that those who have given particular attention to such subjects will make special efforts to attend the Conference.

James C. Carter, President of the City Club of New York.

Edmond Kelly, Secretary of the City Club of New York.

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|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Charles Francis Adams, Boston. | R. W. Gilder, New York. |
| Theodore Roosevelt, Washington, D. C. | Carl Schurz, New York. |
| Richard H. Dana, Boston. | Charles W. Eliot, Cambridge, Mass. |
| Charles J. Bonaparte, Baltimore Md. | Abram S. Hewitt, New York. |
| Henry C. Lea, Philadelphia. | Lyman J. Gage, Chicago. |
| Charles A. Schieren, Brooklyn. | Wayne MacVeagh, Philadelphia. |
| Charles Eliot Norton, Cambridge, Mass. | Washington Gladden, Columbus, O. |
| George W. Childs, Philadelphia. | Daniel C. Gilman, Baltimore, Md. |
| Gamaliel Bradford, Boston. | Lyman Abbott, New York. |
| Moorfield Storey, Boston. | Richard T. Ely, Madison, Wis. |
| Matthew Hale, Albany, N. Y. | Alexander Brown, Philadelphia, |
| L. Clarke Davis, Philadelphia. | Francis A. Walker, Boston. |
| R. Fulton Cutting, New York. | Edward E. Hale, Boston. |
| Horace White, New York. | John R. Procter, Washington, D. C. |
| William G. Low, Brooklyn. | Edwin L. Godkin, New York. |
| Edward M. Shepard, Brooklyn. | Wendell P. Garrison, New York. |
| John Field, Philadelphia. | William Potts, New York. |
| Fred'k Law Olmstead, Brookline, Mass. | W. Harris Roope, New York. |
| Philip C. Garrett, Philadelphia. | H. B. Adams, Johns Hopkins University. |
| Samuel B. Capen, Boston. | Wm. J. Gaynor, Brooklyn. |
| Isaac Sharpless, Haverford College, Pa. | Sylvester Baxter, Boston. |
| Ansley Wilcox, Buffalo, N. Y. | Hampton L. Carson, Philadelphia. |
| Finley Acker, Philadelphia. | Theodore M. Etting, Philadelphia. |
| Edward Cary, Brooklyn. | Ellis D. Williams, Philadelphia. |
| John B. Garrett, Philadelphia. | O. W. Whitaker, Philadelphia. |
| Joel J. Bailly, Philadelphia. | W. W. Frazier, Philadelphia. |
| J. Andrews Harris, Philadelphia. | Wm. Dudley Foulke, Richmond, Ind. |
| Joseph Krauskopf, Philadelphia. | H. La Barre Jayne, Philadelphia. |
| Edwin D. Mead, Boston, | John H. Converse, Philadelphia. |

Charles C. Harrison, Philadelphia.
 Isaac J. Wistar, Philadelphia.
 Everett P. Wheeler, New York.
 Jacob F. Miller, New York.
 Seth Sprague Terry, New York.
 Samuel H. Ordway, New York.
 James S. Whitney, Philadelphia.
 Franklin MacVeagh, Chicago.
 R. C. McMurtrie, Philadelphia.
 Joseph S. Harris, Philadelphia.
 Marshall Field, Chicago.

Wm. P. Henszey, Philadelphia.
 Horace E. Deming, New York.
 Anson Phelps Stokes, New York.
 Alfred Bishop Mason, New York.
 A. R. MacDonough, New York.
 Charles R. Codman, Barnstable, Mass.
 George Burnham, Philadelphia.
 J. Rodman Paul, Philadelphia.
 James E. Rhoads, Bryn Mawr.
 E. W. Clark, Philadelphia.
 William Pepper, Philadelphia.

It will be a matter of satisfaction to members of the Academy to remember that our society was one of the first scientific organizations to give any recognition to the plans and work of the Municipal League of Philadelphia. It will also be remembered that the Tenth Scientific Session of the Academy, held on the twenty-fourth of November, 1891, was devoted to a discussion of the question—"How to Improve City Government." Two of the papers read at that session, the one by Mr. F. P. Prichard, on "The Study of Municipal Government," and the other by Dr. William Draper Lewis, on "The Political Organization of the Modern Municipality," were printed in full in the January number of the ANNALS for 1892, and were subsequently reprinted in the separate edition series as numbers 43 and 44; while in the same number the by-laws and declaration of principles of the Municipal League were printed in full.

These are not the only papers which have been submitted to the Academy upon the interesting question of municipal government. The paper by Professor Simon N. Patten, on "Decay of State and Local Governments," printed in the first number of the ANNALS for July, 1890 (No. 2 in the S. E. series); "Public Health and Municipal Government," by Dr. John S. Billings, which appeared as a supplement to the ANNALS in February, 1891 (No. 17 in the S. E. series); "Our Failures in Municipal Government," by Gamaliel Bradford, printed in the ANNALS for May, 1893 (No. 88 in the S. E. series); "Home Rule for our American Cities," by Dr. E. P. Oberholtzer, printed in the same number of the ANNALS (No. 90 in the S. E. series); and the paper on "Some Neglected Points in Municipal Government," by Dr. Leo S. Rowe, read at the Twenty-first Scientific Session of the Academy on December 20, 1893, not yet printed, form, when taken together, a most valuable contribution to the literature on municipal government.

It is a matter of satisfaction that one of the most active members of the Academy from the beginning of its work, Mr. Clinton Rogers Woodruff, has done also valued service in the work of developing the Municipal League. Mr. Woodruff has been secretary of the Municipal

League from its organization, and was also appointed secretary of the recent national conference held in Philadelphia.

The program of the conference was carried out almost exactly as it was announced. Delegates appeared from New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Chicago, Baltimore, Milwaukee and many other cities.

Hon. James C. Carter, of New York, presided over the meetings of the conference. A public meeting, presided over by Hon. John Field, was held on Friday evening, and a banquet was tendered the visiting delegates by the local committee on Thursday evening.

A congratulatory address was delivered at the opening of the conference by Hon. James C. Carter, followed by an address of welcome by Mr. George Burnham, Jr., President of the Municipal League of Philadelphia. At the morning session on Friday, a series of addresses on the municipal problem in various cities was given by delegates from Municipal, Good Government and Reform Clubs of their respective cities: Mr. Moorfield Storey answered for Boston, Mr. William G. Low for Brooklyn, Mr. Franklin MacVeagh for Chicago, Mr. Charles Jerome Bonaparte for Baltimore, Mr. George G. Mercer for Philadelphia, and Mr. Edmond Kelly for New York.

In the afternoon Dr. Leo S. Rowe, of the Wharton School of Finance and Economy, spoke on the city of Berlin as a municipality; Hon. Carl Schurz, of New York, on "The Relation of Civil Service Reform to Municipal Reform;" Mrs. Joseph P. Mumford, a member of the Philadelphia School Board, on "The Relation of Women to Municipal Reform;" Mr. W. Harris Roome, of New York, on "The Separation of Municipal from other Elections."

The speeches at the banquet given on Thursday evening were of more than the ordinary after-dinner interest, for Mayor Stuart, of Philadelphia, Mayor Schieren, of Brooklyn, Mr. R. W. Gilder, editor of the *Century Magazine*, Hon. James C. Carter, Professor George W. Graham, of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Mr. Horace E. Deming, of New York, Mr. Sylvester Baxter, of the Boston *Herald*, Mr. James M. Beck, Mr. W. Harris Roome made, in the course of their remarks, many valuable suggestions on the subject of municipal government.

The session Friday morning was introduced by a paper from Rev. Washington Gladden, of Columbus, O., on "Influence upon Officials in Office." This was followed by two addresses on "How to Arouse Public Sentiment in Favor of Good City Government;" the first by Edwin D. Mead, editor of the *New England Magazine*, entitled "By Means of Education," the second by Rev. Dr. J. H. Ecob, of Albany, "By Means of the Churches."

On Friday afternoon the subject was "How to Bring Public Sentiment to Bear Upon the Choice of Good Public Officials." The first

paper was by Mr. Alfred Bishop Mason, of New York, on the subject, "Through the Primaries;" the second by Mr. Samuel B. Capen, of Boston, "By Means of Selection from the Candidates of the Regular Parties and by Means of Occasional Nomination of Independent Candidates." As Mr. Capen was absent, Rev. F. B. Allen, Secretary of the Episcopal City Mission of Boston, read Mr. Capen's paper. The third paper was by Mr. Charles Richardson, of Philadelphia, entitled "By Permanent Political Parties." Mr. John A. Butler, of Milwaukee, also read a paper on "Municipal Conditions in Milwaukee."

In order to test the sentiment of the conference, Mr. Horace E. Deming offered a resolution that it was the opinion of the Conference that it is vital to good municipal government that national politics should be divorced from city elections and the administration of city affairs. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

A resolution was also adopted providing for the appointment of a committee of seven to take into consideration the desirability of forming a National Municipal League, with authority to proceed to the organization of such a body if in their judgment it seemed best.

The committee appointed is: Herbert Welsh, of Philadelphia, chairman; Charles G. Richardson, of Philadelphia; James C. Carter, Wm. Harris Roome and James W. Pryor, of New York; Moorfield Storey, of Boston; Charles J. Bonaparte, of Baltimore, and Franklin MacVeagh, of Chicago.

A public meeting was held on the evening of Friday, the 27th, at which the Hon. John Field, of Philadelphia, presided; the Rev. Dr. W. S. Rainsford, of New York, Mr. Charles J. Bonaparte, of Baltimore, Mr. Moorfield Storey, of Boston, and the Hon. Theo. Roosevelt, of the National Civil Service Commission, delivered addresses. Dr. Rainsford spoke on "The Churches and Municipal Reform;" the Hon. Theodore Roosevelt on "Practical Methods for Securing Political Reform."

It lay in the nature of the situation that no immediate practical outcome should be the result of this Conference. But every citizen who was privileged to attend this Conference must have rejoiced at the evidence of growing interest in the great field of municipal government. There were, of course, many different opinions as to the practical methods of securing the end desired, but all agreed as to the necessity of arousing public attention and educating public sentiment, if our city governments are to be improved. No subtle devices or complicated machinery will be of any avail unless the sense of civic duty can be aroused in the average citizen. The proceedings will be published in full.

Among those taking part in the discussion, besides those mentioned above were: Mr. W. J. Campbell, of New York; Mrs. J. Ellen Foster,

of Iowa; Mr. David W. Glass, of Baltimore; Mr. Robert H. Graham, of New York; Professor D. S. Holman; Mrs. Thomas Kirkbride, of Philadelphia; Mr. L. A. Maynard, of New Rochelle, N. Y.; Mr. Jos. A. Miller, of Providence, R. I.; Rev. W. I. Nichols, of Philadelphia; Mr. John H. Rhoades, of New York; Rev. J. Howard Smith, of Philadelphia; Mr. Charles W. Watson, of New York; Mr. Herbert Welsh, of Philadelphia; Dr. Frances E. White, of Philadelphia; Rev. Leighton Williams, of New York; Rev. T. C. Williams, of New York; Mr. Geo. G. Wright, Cambridge, Mass.

The following is a list of the delegates in attendance upon the Conference:

Municipal League of Philadelphia—George Burnham, Jr., Charles Richardson, Thomas B. Prichett, Clinton Rogers Woodruff, Finley Acker, Herbert Welsh, Stuart Wood, William Draper Lewis, Henry Gawthrop, Dr. John B. Roberts, Rev. William I. Nichols, John P. Croasdale, B. Frank Clapp, Rev. S. D. McConnell, George G. Mercer, Hector McIntosh, Rev. Joseph May, H. Gordon McCouch, Ebed S. Cook, George E. Mapes, Frank P. Prichard, Prof. Edmund J. James, R. Francis Wood, Lincoln L. Eyre, Francis B. Reeves, W. M. Salter.

City Club of New York—James C. Carter, John Harsen Rhoades, R. Fulton Cutting, Frederick Bronson, Boudinot Keith, Rev. Theo. C. Williams, Eugene L. Lentillon, Richard Watson Gilder, Rev. W. S. Rainsford, Wm. Bayard Cutting, Rev. Eugene A. Hoffman, Edmond Kelly.

Good Government Club A, New York—Wm. Harris Roome, De Forest Grant.

Good Government Club B, New York—Royal S. Crane, Dr. John P. Peters, Louis C. Whitin, Henry R. Elliott.

Good Government Club C, New York—John Jay Chapman.

Good Government Club D, New York—Charles Taber, R. W. G. Welling.

Good Government Club E, New York—W. J. Campbell, Robert Graham, L. J. Callanen, T. C. Harriott, Charles M. Perry, E. F. Bliss, Jr., John B. Faure, R. C. Carroll.

Civil Service Reform Association—Carl Schurz, Horace E. Deming, Wm. Potts, J. H. C. Nevins, Alfred Bishop Mason.

Baltimore Reform League—Charles Morris Howard, Charles J. Bonaparte, Henry W. Williams, Wm. J. Dickey, Dr. Adam J. Gorman, Richard Bernard, Dr. Sidney Sherwood, Larason Riggs.

Baltimore Taxpayers' Association—Henry N. Bankard, Michael A. Mullin, Edward Stabler, Jr., Dr. Milton Hammond, Benj. F. Walker.

Citizens' Reform Movement of Baltimore—W. Morris Orem, Walter Carrington, James J. McNamara, Frederick W. Schultz, Robert Roddy.

Union League of Chicago—Wm. A. Giles.

Boston Citizens' Association—W. W. Vaughn, Charles W. Birtwell.

Civil Service Reform Association of Cambridge, Mass.—George G. Wright.

Advance Club, Providence, R. I.—Joseph A. Miller, Samuel W. Kilvert, Hiram Howard.

Board of Trade, Minneapolis—A. L. Crocker, J. S. McLain.

Municipal League, Milwaukee—John A. Butler.

Library Hall Association of Cambridge—George G. Wright.

Massachusetts Reform Club of Boston—Moorfield Storey.

Jefferson Club of New Orleans—F. C. Zacharie, Prof. J. R. Ficklin.

American Institute of Civics—Dr. H. R. Waite, Rev. M. C. Peters, Walter S. Logan, LaSalle A. Maynard.

Good Government Club, Yonkers, N. Y.—Datus C. Smith, Alexander Laird, Frederick Wm. Holls, S. T. Hubbard.

Chadwick Civic Club of New York—Edward King, Charles B. Spahr.

Citizens' League of Camden, N. J.—Col. Samuel Hufty, Dr. Silas H. Quint.

Board of Trade, Reading—Geo. J. Eckert.

Presbyterian Ministers' Association of Philadelphia—Revs. John S. MacIntosh, D. D., William H. Roberts, D. D., William Hutton, D. D., Andrew J. Sullivan, D. D., Robert Hunter, D. D.

Temple Congress, Philadelphia—Evan B. Lewis, Augustus Reimer.

Public Opinion Club, Philadelphia—Wm. C. Davis, Dr. Jump, Frank B. Boon.

In addition to the above delegates, the following invited guests were present at the Conference:

Boston—Sylvester Baxter, of the *Herald*, Rev. F. B. Allen, Edwin D. Mead, of the *New England Magazine*, George P. Morris, of the *Congregationalist*. Baltimore—W. H. W. Kelmen, David Horn, C. Glaser, D. W. Glass. New York—Rev. Leighton Williams, C. W. Watson, Rev. W. S. Ufforel, A. G. Gerring. Brooklyn—Wm. G. Low, Hon. Chas. F. Schieren, Thos. G. Shearman, A. Augustus Healy. Chicago—Franklin McVeagh and F. N. Voorhees. Lafayette College, E. D. Warfield. Albany, N. Y.—Rev. J. H. Ecob. Kansas City, Mo.—T. W. Johnson, Jr. and F. W. MacDonald. Columbus, O.—Rev. Washington Gladden. Hartford, Conn.—Arthur Perkins. Brown University—Geo. G. Wilson. Cornell University—J. W. Jenks. Montclair, N. J.—Kirk Brown. Millville, N. J.—Jos. A. Haines. Camden, N. J.—F. T. Lloyd.